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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/788,613	02/27/2004	Robert Paul Morris	1223/US	6484

49278 7590 04/18/2007	EXAMINER
SCENERA RESEARCH, LLC 111 Corning Road Suite 220 Cary, NC 27518	KANG, PAUL H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2144	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/18/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/788,613	MORRIS, ROBERT PAUL
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Paul H. Kang	2144

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>05 February 2007</u>.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-48</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-48</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>27 February 2004</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1.   Claim3 is objected to because of the following grammatical informality:

"configured" on line 2 should be "configure". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3.   Claims 1-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Edlund et

al., US Pat. No. 6,484,162 B1.

4.   As to claims 1, 16, 31, 46, 47 and 48, Edlund teaches a computer-implemented

method, a computer readable medium, and system for providing links to one or more

resources related to a specified resource comprising:

allowing a user to select a specified resource for which a relation is to be

configured (the user selects a specified resource such as information categories, news

group articles, domains, etc.; col. 9, line 66 – col. 10, line 8);

a resource management system for allowing a user to select a specified

resource and to configure a relation comprising a matching criteria for the resource

(col. 6, line 58 – col. 7, line 24; col. 9, lines 1-49 and col. 9, line 66 – col. 10, line 8);

means for associating the relation to the specified resource (col. 8, line 52 –

col. 9, line 65 and col. 10, line 25 – col. 11, line 5);

means for storing the relation associated with the specified resource in a

relation database coupled to the resource management system (col. 9, lines 1-65);

a search engine coupled to the resource management system for processing the

relation to create a relation set comprising the links to the one or more related resources

satisfying the matching criteria (col. 9, line 66 – col. 10, line 22); and

means for displaying the relation set to the user (col. 7, line 25 – col. 8, line 16).

5.   As to claims 2, 17 and 32, Edlund teaches a user interface coupled to the

resource management system for allowing the user to select a resource type to be

returned, wherein, the resource management system includes means for receiving the

user's selection and a relation engine for retrieving from the relation database a

template corresponding to the resource type, wherein the template comprises a plurality

of parameters associated with the corresponding resource type (col. 8, line 52 – col. 9,

line 65).

6.   As to claims 3, 18, 33, 34, and 35, Edlund teaches the computer-implemented

method, computer readable medium, and system wherein the resource management

system further includes means for allowing the user to create the matching criteria

utilizing the plurality of parameters via the user interface, wherein the one or more

related resources satisfy the matching criteria (col. 6, line 58 – col. 7, line 67 and col. 8,

line 52 – col. 9, line 65);

wherein the relation engine automatically retrieves and displays any previously

defined relation for the resource in response to the user selecting the resource to be

configured (col. 10, lines 25-62);

wherein the resource management system includes means for allowing the user

to select a previously defined relation and allowing the user to update the matching

criteria in the previously defined relation selected (col. 10, lines 25-62).

7.   As to claims 4, 19 and 36, Edlund teaches the computer-implemented method,

computer readable medium, and system wherein the relation further comprises a

context constraint that imposes conditions not related to the matching criteria (col. 8,

line 52 – col. 9, line 65).

8.   As to claims 5, 20 and 37, Edlund teaches the computer-implemented method,

computer readable medium, and system wherein the relation engine automatically

retrieves from the relation database a context template comprising a plurality of context

parameters and the resource management system includes means for allowing the user

to create or update the context constraint utilizing the plurality of context parameters

(col. 6, line 58 – col. 7, line 67 and col. 8, line 52 – col. 9, line 65).

9.   As to claims 6 and 21, Edlund teaches the computer-implemented method and

computer readable medium comprising storing the relation after it has been associated

with the resource (col. 9, lines 1-65).

10.   As to claims 7, 22 and 38, Edlund teaches the computer-implemented method,

computer readable medium, and system wherein the resource management system

includes means for receiving the user's request to access the resource, and wherein the

relation engine, in response to such a request, automatically retrieves the relation

associated with the resource (col. 6, line 58 – col. 7, line 67).

11.   As to claim 39, Edlund teaches the computer-implemented method, computer

readable medium, and system wherein the resource management system includes means

for passing the matching criteria associated with the relation to the search engine for

execution (col. 6, line 58 – col. 7, line 67).

12.   As to claims 8, 23 and 40, Edlund teaches the computer-implemented method,

computer readable medium, and system wherein the search engine includes means for

locating the one or more related resources satisfying the matching criteria and means for

collecting links for the one or more related resources to create the relation set (col. 6,

line 58 – col. 7, line 67 and col. 8, line 52 – col. 9, line 65).

13.   As to claims 9, 24 and 41, Edlund teaches the computer-implemented method,

computer readable medium, and system wherein the relation further comprises a context

constraint that imposes one or more conditions not related to the matching criteria,

wherein the one or more conditions includes a security criteria (col. 8, lines 17-49 and

col. 11, liens 6-29).

14.   As to claims 10, 25 and 42, Edlund teaches the computer-implemented method,

computer readable medium, and system wherein the resource management system

includes means for examining the security criteria prior to passing the matching criteria

to the search engine to determine whether the user is authorized to submit the relation and

means for returning an error message to the user if the user is not authorized (col. 8, lines

17-49 and col. 11, liens 6-29)..

15.   As to claims 11, 12, 13, 26, 27, 28 and 43, Edlund teaches the computer-

implemented method, computer readable medium, and system wherein the resource

management system includes means for examining the context constraint to determine

whether the relation is executable upon request and means for instructing the relation

engine retrieve a relation set most recently created if the relation is not executable upon

request or if executable collecting links for the one or more related resources to create the

relation set (col. 8, lines 17-49 and col. 11, liens 6-29).

16.   As to claims 14, 29 and 44, Edlund teaches the computer-implemented method,

computer readable medium, and system wherein in response to the user's request to

access the resource, the resource management system displays the relation associated

with the resource via the user interface and wherein the resource management system

further includes means for allowing the user to select the displayed relation, means for allowing the user to define one or more narrowing constraints, means for appending the one or more narrowing constraints to the matching criteria to form a modified matching criteria, and means for passing the modified matching criteria to the search engine for execution (col. 6, line 58 – col. 7, line 67 and col. 8, line 52 – col. 9, line 65).

17.   As to claims 15, 30 and 45, Edlund teaches the computer-implemented method, computer readable medium, and system further comprising means for allowing the user to utilize the links in the relation set to navigate from the specified resource to the one or more resources satisfying the matching criteria (col. 3, lines 33-54 and col. 6, line 58 – col. 7, line 67).

Response to Arguments

18.   Applicant's arguments filed February 5, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicants argued in substance that the prior art of record fails to teach or suggest allowing the user to "select a specified resource" for which a relation is to be configured, and "associating the relation with the specified resource." The applicants argue that Edlund fails to teach selecting a specified resource, such as an image or photo album. Further, Applicants describe resources as "stored objects, e.g. user sites, electronic greeting cards, electronic books, movies, music, images and photo albums."

19.   The examiner respectfully disagrees. Contrary to Applicant's interpretation of

Edlund and the claimed invention, Edlund teaches the claimed limitation "allowing a user

to select a specified resource for which a relation is to be configured" and "allowing the

user to configure the relation comprising a matching criteria for the specified resource."

See claim 1.

Applicants argue limitations which are not essential to the scope of the prior art.

The definiteness of the language employed must be analyzed, not in a vacuum, but

always in light of the teachings of the prior art and of the particular application disclosure

as it would be interpreted by one possessing the ordinary level of skill in the pertinent art.

Insofar, the claims have been given the broadest reasonable interpretation consistent with

the specification and the prior art, since the applicant may then amend his claims, the

thought being to reduce the possibility that after a patent is granted the claims may be

interpreted as giving broader coverage than is justified. Therefore, applicant's arguments

regarding images and photo albums, etc., are not given weight as to the patentability of

the claimed subject matter.

Further, Edlund teaches that a user generates a search query comprising Boolean

operators identifying a specified information category, such as news group articles, or

domains. In generating such a query, the user is able to select a specified resource, i.e. a

stored object such as domains or "a user site" as suggested by applicant. See Edlund, col.

9, lines 1-15 and lines 29-49. The user is also able to configure the relation through the

Query Interface. See Edlund, col. 7, lines 44-67 and col. 8, lines 34-49.

20.   Applicants also argue in reference to claim 17, that the prior art fails to teach that

the system assists the user in configuring the relation by retrieving a template that

corresponds to the resource type the user wants returned. The examiner disagrees. In

Edlund, a user may retrieve prior search queries that assist the user in retrieving resources

the user wants returned. See col. 8, lines 34-49. Further, Edlund teaches a domain

mapping table comprising a hash table that contains domain specific query command to

aid the user in configuring the relation to the resource type the user wants returned.
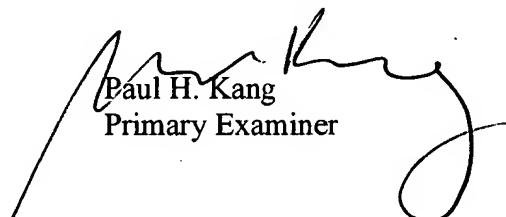
Conclusion

21.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of

time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the

advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than

SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

22.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Paul H. Kang whose telephone number is (571) 272-3882.

The examiner can normally be reached on 9 hour flex. First Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Vaughn can be reached on (571) 272-3922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Paul H. Kang
Primary Examiner